

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Newly-added Claims 31 and 32 are supported by the specification at pages 15 and 18, respectively. Accordingly, no new matter is believed to have been added to the present application by the amendments submitted above.

REMARKS

Claims 1-18, 20-24 and 26-32 are pending. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The present invention relates to a polymer dispersion having low viscosity. The composition comprises D) from 0.3 to 15% by weight of at least one compound having a dielectric constant of greater than or equal to 9, where the compound is water, a glycol, an amine, a halogenated hydrocarbon, a ketone and/or an alcohol, where the alcohol is selected from the group consisting of methanol, ethanol, butanol, glycerol and mixtures thereof, and where the amine is selected from the group consisting of ethanolamine, 1,2-ethanediamine, propanolamine and mixtures thereof. See Claim 1.

The rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)/ §103(a) over Takigawa is respectfully traversed. Takigawa fails to disclose or suggest the claimed composition.

The Examiner's position is that component D) of the claimed composition overlaps component (D) disclosed by Takigawa.

Component (D) of Takigawa is a surfactant. See column 3, line 65 to column 4, line 4. The surfactant is an oxyalkylated active-hydrogen containing compound. See column 4, lines 4-10. Examples of the active-hydrogen compounds are described at column 4, line 11 to column 5, line 67.

However, component D) of the claimed composition does not embrace the oxyalkylated active-hydrogen containing compounds described by Takigawa. Component D) of the claimed composition is a compound having a dielectric constant of greater than or equal to 9, where the compound is water, a glycol, an amine, a halogenated hydrocarbon, a ketone and/or an alcohol, In particular, the alcohols and amines explicitly listed in Claim 1 do not embrace the oxyalkylated compounds described by Takigawa. Thus, the reference

fails to describe methanol, ethanol, butanol, glycerol, ethanolamine or 1,2-ethanediamine, propanolamine.

Nor is there any suggestion to include such compounds in the composition described by the reference. In fact, Takigawa actually teaches away from such components by describing the use of oxyalkylated alcohols and amines, rather than the alcohols or amines themselves.

In view of the foregoing, Takigawa fails to disclose or suggest the claimed composition. Accordingly, the claims are not anticipated by or obvious over that reference. Withdrawal of these grounds of rejection is respectfully requested.

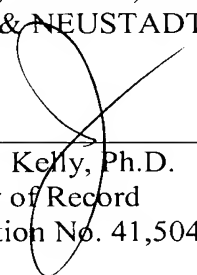
The rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is respectfully traversed.

The specification provides a detailed description of carrier C) and component D). See pages 15-22. In view of that detailed description, one reading the claims in light of the specification would be apprised of the differences between carrier C) and component D). Accordingly, the claims are definite. Withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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